

HEY PARENTS!!



- Have you been caught off guard by questions about sex, relationships, body parts or more?



Or



- Have you wondered when your kids will ask these types of questions?



Let's get this Conversation started!

What is a House Party?

- "Parents are a teen's most trusted source of information about sexuality and healthy relationships." (Families are Talking, SIECUS Family Project, 2003)
- A House Party supports teen pregnancy prevention.
- A gathering of friends, family, colleagues, or any adult with children in their lives.
- Talking to our children early and keeping the conversation going can be challenging.

The purpose of a House Party

1. Help parents get comfortable with the conversation, regardless of the ages of children
2. Identify key messages that have been shown to impact healthy sexuality
3. Help recognize and overcome personal biases and barriers to having the conversations with children
4. Allows parents to create their personal intent of what they want for sexuality education and how to actively participate in making that happen
5. Introduce some concrete skills to achieve successful conversations about sexuality

House Party Agenda/Schedule

- 2 facilitators or 1 host and 1 facilitator
 - Group size: 10-12 including facilitators
1. Welcome-purpose of the gathering
 2. Introductions-Name, Children names and age
 3. Ground Rules
 4. Ice Breaker (How many of you?)
 5. Remembering your own sexuality education
 6. What messages do we want to give children about sexuality?
 7. Video clip "Talking about Sex: A Guide for Families"
 8. Closure-now what?

And the Survey Says!

- 25 parents will talk with their children about sexuality
- 4 people want to be kept advised of TPPC activities
- 4 people want to host a house party
- 2 people will write a letter to the editor about the teen pregnancy prevention topic
- 1 person will talk with friends about this topic and organization to spread the word
- 8 Participants would be interested in another discussion with similar information and topics

Quotes and Feedback

What I liked about the House Party:

- The ability to talk amongst friends
- Time to share personal concerns
- Openness & similarities with other parents whose values I respect
- The small group discussion and the literature available to take home
- Questions at the beginning about how we were raised got me thinking on how to do it differently

- Learning new ideas from parents similarly situated
- Tips and things to help start a conversation with your child
- That it is intimate & yet informal
- That it was among friends and being open wasn't hard
- Actually sitting down with an agenda to think about how to have discussions with children & parents on subjects that matter.

- Help to provide direction & focus in a positive direction
- Great tips on how to open the door on communications on sexual topics
- There was great dialogue
- Openness and respect for different view points
- Learning more about the sexual situations and experiences children are exposed to
- The ability to openly discuss and hear other parents' perspectives

Resources

Raising Healthy Kids:

<http://wordscanwork.com/products/product.html?prod=006>

Families are Talking-SIECUS:

www.familiesaretalking.org

Ten tips for Parents-National Campaign to
Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy

www.nationalcampaign.org

- TPPC powerpoint-MPHA04152010
